

MARQUETTE LEAGUE READY FOR SEASON

New Field Should Add to Popularity of the Games.

MANAGER LUTICH TAKEN TO FOLD

Will Have Charge of St. Martin Outfit—Columbia and Immaculate Conception Added.

A meeting of the officers of the Marquette League has been called for next Sunday and final preparations for the opening of the season will at that time be completed and a schedule adopted. Bids for the erection of the stands at the new grounds, First and W streets northwest, will be given out.

While this organization was not a howling success last season, it kept its head above water, and toward the end of the year exhibited an article of amateur ball hard to beat on the Washington sand lots. In the past season series the Marines, of the Marquette League, have been second to the Columbia Athletic Club team, which won the city championship.

In selecting the field at First and W streets the directors of the league have chosen an excellent diamond, as well as a good stand. Last year the grounds were used by the newly organized Columbia League, which has since disbanded, offering an inferior article of ball, the league struggled through the season and grew well enough to insure the success of a better organization and faster combination.

Welcomed New Leader.

Another item hailed with satisfaction by the officers of the Marquette League is the addition of John Lutich to the managerial ranks. Lutich bears reputation as a capable manager for amateur teams. For the past several years he has handled various teams with marked success. Twice during the past three seasons he has landed pennants for his proteges. He will have charge of the rejuvenated St. Martin outfit, and with the material available he should be again very much in the running before the season is far spent.

Last season both the Marquette and the Sunday School organizations operated in the northeast. Getting a head start the Marquette leaguers lost much of their prestige, although, toward the end of the season, the games were as well patronized as ever. The Sunday School League is the older organization and, established as one of the fastest and best-drawing organizations in the city, is a hard proposition to buck. The Marquette League was up against this proposition all season and the fact that they survived the schedule and kept well above water shows the popularity of the new league.

Two Fast Aggregations.

Both Marines and St. Joseph's of this league, were considered among the best amateur aggregations in the city, and, although several of the other nine played mediocre ball early in the season, toward the end all were going at a good clip, and the Northeast fans witnessed some classy exhibitions. With the exception of the Marines and St. Vincent's the league will comprise the same club roster as last year, Columbia and Immaculate Conception taking the places of the teams which withdrew. The Marines have joined the ranks of the Capital City League, while St. Vincent has disbanded.

Bids will be given Sunday for the erection of the stands and screens at the new grounds. That equipment, used on the old field at Thirteenth and D streets northwest, has been carefully preserved and as soon as all the bids for the work in putting the stands up have been received, the material will be rushed out to the workmen. While the schedule has not yet been announced, it is the intention of the league under HARRY M. DODD.

TWO GOOD BOUTS FOR GOTHAM FANS

Attell-Neil and Cross-McFarland Scraps Are Booked for Tonight.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Two bouts between little fellows are on the boards tonight. In Manhattan Leach, Cross will meet Pacey McFarland and try to turn the tables on the defeat the "stock yards kid" administered to him some months ago.

In Brooklyn, Abe Attell, the featherweight champion, will try conclusions with Frankie Neil, the clever little Californian.

DANIELS IS FIRST IN CHAMP MATCH

PHILADELPHIA, March 22.—C. M. Daniels, of the New York Athletic Club, America's fastest short and middle-distance swimmer, romped away with the University of Pennsylvania's gymnasium pool last night, defeating Goodwin and Kelly by half a length without exerting himself in 5 minutes 34 3/4 seconds.

MILAN SHOWS EFFECT OF EARLY OVERWORK

LETTERS TO WASHINGTON FANS—No. 15

Young Man Furnishes Example of Misapplied Spring Energy.

HOW MAJORS HAVE EDGE ON MINORS

Simple Tricks of Business Strikingly Shown in Nationals' Exhibition Games.

Waco, Tex., March 22, 1909.

Dear Fanatics: It was unfortunate for Cantillon's merry men that they had to leave Galveston last Friday. When the northern cleared away on Monday there never was more delightful weather than that at the Seawall City, and the beneficial effects of the practice crowded into one week was apparent in every move. The men are still in fine fettle, but when they get up into Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, they will run into a series of sloppy days enough to break the heart of a wooden Indian, if the experience of the past two years counts.

Speaking of practice, it would be well for some managers to bear in mind after the season is well spent and hot weather is a regular diet, that there are some young and enthusiastic players who are likely to do entirely too much work before the season starts. Getting out early and doing all sorts of fancy stunts in the broiling sun is not helpful to men already keyed up and not in need of reducing flesh. One of those who finds it harmful to do too much before the bell rings is Clyde Milan. On more than one occasion last summer he became so interested in his preliminary cavortings that when the "play ball" sounded he was pretty well fagged, and by the time the game was half over was not in shape to do his best. This spring he ran against the same proposition in the exhibition series, and is determined to do no more in the coming campaign than work just enough to loosen himself up before the games.

Tricks of the Trade.

Simple tricks of the baseball business that are known to all major leaguers of experience are often sealed books to minor players of years' standing. Thebo Wolf, Galveston's backstop, is a catcher of considerable promise, except that he is a weak hitter. In Texas League company he has made good and has been favorably commented upon, yet until Charley Street showed him, he had not the slightest idea of how to touch out a runner who was sliding to the plate. In the first exhibition game with Galveston Wolf took a throw from the outfield and could have nailed Clymer, who was coming from third, by ten feet, yet Clymer slid under and around the catcher, caught the pan in safety and made him look foolish. After the game Street took Wolf in hand and in five minutes showed him how to hold the ball in front of the plate with a loose arm, so that the runner would have to come into the ball before scoring, thereby relieving the catcher of the risk of trying to stab at him. On

DELEHANTY'S LITTLE GAME.

PROF. Moore has an easy berth beside a sport writer who takes it upon himself to do out the wherefore of a baseball player's next move.

Just the same there are a whole lot of us who have a hunch that it will not be long ere Jim Delehanty is safe in the Washington fold. James shows unmistakable signs of nervousness.

When a ball player gives himself to distant parts and shows a disposition to attend to his private affairs, a la Fielder Jones, it is a safe sign that he means business. But Delehanty's willingness to be interviewed and his proclivity for issuing unsolicited ultimatums is the most hopeful thing about his case.

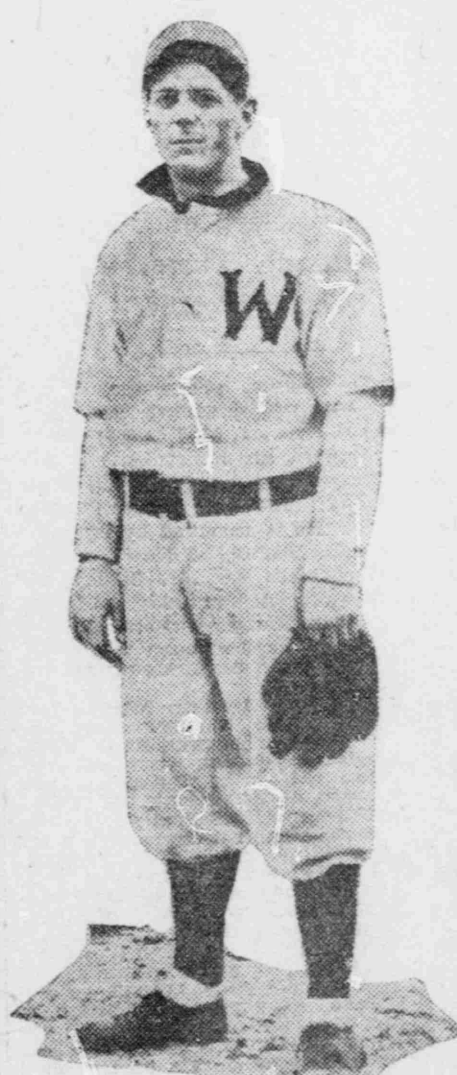
The last one names ten days and \$100, as the extreme limit of time and money to which he will receive overtures. It is more than likely that after ten days are up, our newly developed press agent will discover some other way to bring himself to the attention of the public and incidentally Manager Cantillon.

All the while Cantillon is silent, and maybe smiles up his red sleeve. This is merely an exhibition of the famous Joseph system of bringing disgruntled ball players to a show-down.

MURPHY HITS HOME.

IT IS not exactly a new discovery that records are too easily made these days by lax methods, but it is good to hear no less an authority than Mike Murphy endorse the view.

Conditions only a few years ago were badly different from those in vogue today. The one fact alone that records can now be made in other than cham-



CLYDE MILAN.

Wednesday almost exactly the same play arose, Clymer was again the runner and again tried to dodge Wolf, but the lesson had been well learned and Wolf nailed him with ease.

Otis Clymer is always a little late in getting his batting eye in the spring. He finds some trouble in getting his step right, even after his lamps have become accustomed to spotting curves. He has not yet struck his gait, but is working away with might and main in morning practice and in the exhibitions and will automatically spread the right distance when he draws back for his swing.

Groom Has Strange Twister.

Bob Groom, our new right-hander from the coast, claims to have a show of a brand new wrinkle in the game. He says he does not know how to explain its origin or use, but the ball simply sails up in the ordinary way of floaters, and then curves away from the batter in a manner most surprising and entirely original. He does not expect the youth almost broke his neck trying to reach it. Incidentally, Charley Street nearly sprained his back trying to catch it, for he was much stung as the batter. Groom promises to show this specialty many times if he remains in fast company, which seems more than likely.

Conroy is taking just as big leads off the bases as ever this year, and keeps the opposing pitchers in a state of nervous excitement by his methods. He should get more than one winning run that ordinary player would make.

THOMAS S. RICE.

TIMELY COMMENT ON DAY'S SPORT TOPICS

ten years or so the contestants can get together for a genuine bout.

A brief review of the track season will show that the South and West have taken an unusual interest in indoor games, both in the South and in cities near the border line.

Some day we may get out a paper without Johnson's name on the sport page. The exact date will be announced later.

There are just a few of us who can't see Mr. Rice's idea of sportsmanship in running off to a mere fight hunt just as the baseball season is about to open.

Johnson has consented to meet Jeffries. Another striking proof that it takes two to make a bargain.

There is great joy in Pistiana. The triff of gloves and sponges has been cut.

We will now be able to adequately feature the forthcoming fight between Jeffries and Johnson. Congress may chop the price of white paper.

Because the ice crop at North East, Md., was a failure, Henry P. Sauer's offers to trade his property there for a good plantation on the Berling straits.

Pittsburg club has insured the life of President Dreyfus for \$100,000. Brother stockholders must fear that he is going to visit the Polo grounds this summer.

Since the athletic non-collegians beat Mack's diploma holders, the knife has been a conspicuous weapon at meal time at the hotel, while men like Eddie Collins and Jack Barry are attacking soup with their forks.

Fraternal Note.—First act of Hans Loebert, who was recently made an Elk, was to force brother August Hermann to slap an extra \$600 to his salary.

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SLUMP AT FINISH WAGO'S DOWNFALL

Burns, in Pitching Jacket, Easily Subdues Texas Leaguers.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

DALLAS, Tex., March 22.—It would have been a great scandal if the Waco team had beaten the Washington team yesterday at Waco, but it was saved by the pitching of Bill Burns, who had the miners tied up in a sack for his seven innings. Bill is using a slow ball, and cross-fire this year more than ever, and is getting splendid results from them. Score, Washington, 3; Waco, 0.

He has steadily worked at the trick of catching men off bases, and is even better at it than last season. He was accused of balking when he broke in with Washington, but persuaded the umpires that his delivery to first was legal. He has been trying out the various phases of his arguments this spring, and he and Cantillon are now convinced that opposing managers can offer no objections. Charley Smith had little to do in the two innings he pitched. He relied almost entirely upon straight shots, and they were enough. He had not complained of his arm until Sunday, when it began to cause trouble. Today he is not in the best of shape.

The sandy nature of the diamond in Texas has given damaging twists to the ankles of Unger, McBride, and Conroy. None of them are laid up, but they have a wholesome fear of further injury. When the diamonds are not altogether soft like that at Galveston, they are soft on top and hard beneath, a peculiarly dangerous combination for men not accustomed to such conditions.

Milan begged off from being sent to Topeka with the Yankees. He has a lot of friends in Wichita and wants to see them, so Cantillon will take him along. He is not limping so badly now, but his ankle is still extremely sore. Whether he will be sent to Washington from Wichita has not been determined, as Cantillon is changing his mind every few minutes.

Hughes' Jennings scored another triumph over Cantillon in San Antonio. The Washington manager throughout Saturday's game and the first two innings on Sunday engaged in a duel of persiflage with Jennings. Now he is so hoarse that he has to make signs to his friends, or the Yankees, when asked what he will have.

Smith and Johnson or Tannehill will run the Yankees against Dallas today, but the program depends upon Smith's arm.

The Yankees left last evening for Topeka and will remain there until the main squad reaches that place. Groom and Gray were turned over to Manager Hughes, of the Yankees, in exchange for Smith and Tannehill. The main crowd left here this morning and will play the Dallas aggregation there this afternoon.

RINGSIDE GOSSIP.

Jimmy Coffroth picks Jack O'Brien to defeat Stanley Ketchel in a ten-round bout.

At Paris on Saturday Young Otto knocked out an English lightweight in three rounds.

Jim Stewart, the New York heavyweight, is talking about going to Europe. He ought to whip most of the fighters in that part of the world now.

THOMAS S. RICE.

CLASSY ENTRY LIST FOR GUARD GAMES

Large Roster of Washington Athletes Will Compete Next Friday.

STERRETT IS OUT AFTER A RECORD

George Washington Pole Vaulters Hopes to Better Mark for Title.

All is in readiness for the big indoor meet to be given next Friday under the auspices of the District National Guard in the Guard Armory. Manager Edwards has prepared a long program which looks to be one of the classiest offered here this season. The feature of the games and several of the best quartets in the South will compete. George Washington has entered a long string as have most of the other local schools and clubs. Jack Sterrett, the George Washington pole vaulter, who holds the Southern title, will make an attempt to break his own record. The National Guard championship relay race is another feature of the program. Trials for this event will be held tomorrow.



JACK STERRETT.

Added attractions have been arranged and will fill the space between the various races and competitions. Lowe and Ryan will box an exhibition bout, Joe Turner will wrestle Frank Lockhead and several vaudeville attractions will top out.

KENTUCKY TURFMAN LAND BIG VICTORY

Latonia Track Will Hold Its Meeting on Former Basis.

COVINGTON, Ky., March 22.—Judge Harbeson, in Kenton county circuit court, has rendered his decision in the noted case of the Latonia Jockey Club against the Kentucky Racing Commission, holding the law establishing the commission as unconstitutional. The effect of the decision is to place Latonia racing on its former basis.

Judge Harbeson held that the law creating the Kentucky Racing Commission gave that body power to regulate racing races; that trotting races and running races came under the same legal category, and that, therefore, the law was class legislation and was unconstitutional.

The court, in other words, held that the law to be valid must give the racing commission specific authority over both trotting and running races.

WALKER WILL GIVE
CHESS EXHIBITION

Meets Departmental Cracks in Simultaneous Play at Local Club, March 24.

The annual tournament of the Departmental Chess League, an organization of chess players from the departments, is nearing completion, after a series of closely contested matches between teams representing practically all the departments.

A closing feature will be a simultaneous chess exhibition by F. B. Walker, the well-known local chess expert, at the rooms of the Washington Chess Club, 82 Twelfth street northwest, next Wednesday, March 24.

Walker will meet all comers in a simultaneous exhibition and an interesting session is anticipated.

Frank Gotch, the premier leg twister, neckbreaker and round careless handler of human bodies, seems wonderfully undecided and all over two kinds of green. One is the verdant surroundings of the country and the other is naught but long green.

There are just a few of us who can't see Mr. Rice's idea of sportsmanship in running off to a mere fight hunt just as the baseball season is about to open.

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THOMAS S. RICE.

CURTAIN IS RAISED ON ENGLISH TURF

American Stables Touted to Carry Off the Heaviest Prizes.

UNBEATEN COLIN READY TO START

British Handicappers Honor Invaders By Allotting Them "Top Weights."

LONDON, March 22.—American horses will take a prominent place on the English turf this season.

"Flat" racing began yesterday at Lingdon, and lasts eight months. Cwing to the anti-race track legislation in the United States the biggest American stables are here in greater force than ever before, although English horsemen are growing accustomed to the American cracks dragging down the prizes on the island.

Among the American horses here awaiting the starter's bell are Ballot, Maskette, and the unbeaten Colin, all from the stables of J. R. Keene; Louis Whinn's Sir Martin; August Belmont's Priscillian and Fair Play, H. P. Whitney's Dinna Ken and Delirium.

English sportsmen have a wholesome dread of these American cracks. This is shown by the fact that the English handicappers have allotted the "invaders" top weights in all the big spring handicaps. Even the English were surprised when the figures were announced while the Americans protested against the manifest unfairness of the handicappers. The only defense of the latter was that they could get no comparison between English and American "form" and therefore put the visitors on the "strangers," which is about the worst they could do. But there is no appeal from the verdict of the handicappers, and the Americans can only grip and bear it, if they wish their horses to compete. Their only alternative is to withdraw their horses when the weights are announced as prohibitive. That will undoubtedly be done in many events.

Keene has four horses entered in the Kempton Park Great Jubilee handicap of \$15,000—Ballot and Colin (top weights), Helmet L. (100 pounds), and Wedding Belle (97), while Belmont will enter Priscillian (112), Fair Play (120), and Norman III (120).

The greatest interest, however, is the meeting of Sir Martin, the American horse who was bred by John E. Madden and sold to Whinn, and A. Fairweather's Bayardo. Bayardo was unbeaten last year as a two-year-old and won seven races, while Sir Martin, a good many men believe that he had only a fair lot of horses to beat as a two-year-old and will be beaten when he meets a real horse.

Anyhow, there is a good chance for an American to win the Derby, the blue ribbon of the English turf, this year.



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